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Music among the Poets and Poetical Writers—(continued.)

Although tinged with Armado's fantasticalness, yet the following is expressed with Shakespeare's own fervour :—

"Warble, child; make passionate my sense of hearing."
Shakespeare.

Moth's raillery, in rejoinder, contains a ludicrous description of affected singing :

"Jig off a tune at the tongue's end, canary to it with your feet, humour it with turning up your eye-lids; sigh a note, and sing a note; sometime through the throat, as if you swallowed love with singing love; sometime through the nose, as if you snuffed up love by smelling love; with your hat penthouse-like, o'er the shop of your eyes; with your arms crossed on your thin belly-doublet, like a rabbit on a spit; or your hands in your pocket, like a man after the old painting: and keep not too long in one tune, but a snip and away."—Shakespeare.

"Hark! how the minstrels 'gin to shrill aloud
Their merry music that resounds from far,
The pipe, the tabor, and the trembling croud,
That well agree withouten breach or jar:
But most of all the damsels do delight
When they their timbrels smite,
And thereunto do dance and carol sweet,
That all the senses they do ravish quite."—Spenser.

"There many minstrels maken melody,
To drive away the dull melancholy;
And many bards, that to the trembling chord
Can tune their timely voices cunningly;
And many chroniclers, that can record
Old loves, and wars for ladies done by many a lord."
Spenser.

"The minstrel bowed with blushing glee;
His harp into his arms took he,
And rous'd its pulses to a mood
Befitting love and hardihood.
Then, with his ready wit sincere,
He sang to every tingling ear,
How, &c."—Leigh Hunt.

"The bard obey'd; and taking from his side,
Where it in seemly sort depending hung,
His British harp, its speaking strings he try'd,
The which with skilful touch he deftly strung,
Till tinkling in clear symphony they rung.
Then, as he felt the Muses come along,
Light o'er the chords his raptur'd hand he flung,
And played a prelude to his rising song:
The whilst, like midnight mute, ten thousand round
him throng."—Thomson.

"Beneath a craigy steep, a bard,
Laden with years and meikle pain,
In loud lament bewail'd his lord,
Whom death had all untimely ta'en.

He lean'd him to an ancient aik,
Whose trunk was mould'ring down with years;
His locks were bleached white wi' time,
His hoary cheek was wet wi' tears!

And as he touch'd his trembling harp,
And as he tun'd his doleful sang,
The winds lamenting thro' their caves,
To echo bore the notes along."—Burns.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

This Journal is published on the 1st of every month.

The late hour at which Advertisements reach us, interferes much with their proper classification.

All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

Colored Envelopes are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.

We would request those who send us country newspapers, wishing us to read particular paragraphs, to mark the passage, by cutting a slit in the paper near it.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

NORTH SHIELDS.—The Tynemouth Sacred Harmonic Society held their second annual concert on the 20th of January. The programme was selected from the *Messiah*, *Creation*, *Elijah*, Mozart's Twelfth Mass, and other favorite works. It commenced with Novello's arrangement of "Adeste Fideles," which was very effectively rendered. The principal solo singers were Mesdames Ellis and Curry; Misses Masterton, Redpath, and Duke; and Messrs. Robson, Barker, Wood, Hindhaugh, and Lawson. Mr. Liddle presided at the organ; and the whole was ably conducted by Mr. Adam Wood.

GEELONG, AUSTRALIA.—The Sacred Harmonic Society of Geelong is progressing most satisfactorily. On the 22nd of October, the *Creation* was performed, with complete success, before a very crowded audience. Madame Bishop, Mr. Kaye, and Mr. Laglaise, were the vocalists; and Messrs. Siede and Loder performed on the flute and pianoforte in the second part of the concert, which consisted of a selection of secular music.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—On the 4th of February, a deputation from the Association for promoting the Repeal of the Paper Duty waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to urge the repeal of this bar to the advancement of literature. Mr. Milner Gibson introduced the deputation; and an address, containing some very important facts and interesting statistics, was read by the secretary. On Wednesday, the 25th ult., the sixth annual public meeting of the Association took place at St. Martin's Hall. The chair was taken by Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P.; and the meeting was addressed by Dr. Epps, Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P., Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., Mr. Serjeant Parry, Mr. Henry Rawson, and Dr. J. Watts.

MELBOURNE.—A very efficient Philharmonic Society has been instituted in this flourishing city. The success attending its performances has been very decided. On the 17th of last October, they gave *Acis and Galatea*, with much completeness. Mrs. Testa, Mrs. McDougal, Mr. Ewart, and Mr. G. O. Rutter, were the principal performers. A miscellaneous selection followed. The acting Governor and suite were present.

ALNWICK.—The members of the Amateur Choral Society met on Monday evening, the 9th of February, for the purpose of presenting their honorary conductor, Mr. Benjamin Thompson, with a testimonial, as a mark of their esteem, and approbation of his labours on behalf of the society, and conducting it gratuitously since its formation to its present state of prosperity and efficiency. The testimonial consisted of a silver pencil-case and a purse of gold; and was presented by Mr. Henry Vernon, who accompanied it with an appropriate address.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.—The Amateur Choral Society issued invitations to their friends, on Tuesday, 27th Jan., for one of their public performances. A numerous company attended in the National School-room, and the performance reflected great credit on the society. There was a novel and ingenious mode practised of publishing the programme, which was exhibited by being printed in large type on four sides of a Chinese lantern, suspended in the centre of the room,—thereby giving every one an opportunity of seeing what was to be performed.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—A series of four subscription concerts has been given by the Whiting Street Singing Society, which consists exclusively of amateurs. Handel's *Samson*, and the *Creation*, *Elijah*, and *Eli*, were very effectively sung.

WRECK OF THE "NORTHERN BELLE."—A concert, which was well attended, was given at the Myddelton Hall, Islington, on the 3rd ult., by the members of the Quaver and Amphion Glee Clubs, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the gallant crew of the "Victory" lugger, who perished in attempting to rescue the crew of the "Northern Belle."

LIVERPOOL.—THE LATE MR. GEORGE HOLDEN.—A concert, for the benefit of the widow and family of this gentleman, was held at Saint George's Hall. The chorus was the largest ever assembled in Liverpool, numbering, with band, nearly 500 performers. The *Messiah* was the oratorio given upon the occasion. Mr. Baetens led the band, Mr. Best presided at the organ, and Mr. C. B. Hermann conducted.

BENEVOLENT FUND OF THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The first annual meeting of the governors of this fund took place at Exeter Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 27th of January, the president, J. N. Harrison, Esq. in the chair. The object of this charity is to relieve "all who have at any time been connected with the Sacred Harmonic Society, amateur or professional." The honorary secretary, Mr. Puttick, read the report of the proceedings, and Mr. Hill, the treasurer, stated, that after payment of the necessary expenses, and amount expended for relief, the sum of £600 consols had been purchased, as a permanent investment. Mr. Bowley and Mr. Brewer strongly urged the claims of the institution upon the public sympathy and support.

WINDSOR.—The Windsor and Eton Royal Glee and Madrigal Society had their fifth concert, of the second series, on the 2nd ult., under the patronage of the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Duchess of Kent. The gentlemen and choristers of the Chapel Royal assisted, and Dr. Elvey was the honorary conductor.

CONGLETON.—A vocal and instrumental concert took place at the Assembly Room, on the 2nd ult., conducted by Mr. Eyre. Several eminent vocalists were engaged for the occasion, and the performance gave general satisfaction.

WELLS.—On Friday, the 30th January, the Choral Society of this town had their first subscription concert at the British School-room. The members were assisted by Misses Livock and Beauchamp; Mr. Bray led; Mr. Thompson presided at the harmonium and pianoforte, and Mr. Buxton, of Holkham, conducted.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.—The Philharmonic Society's second concert of the series was held on the 7th ult. at the Royal Shakespearean Rooms, under the patronage of many of the principal resident families. The band and chorus numbered upwards of fifty performers. Miss Rainforth was the principal vocalist, and Messrs. Adams, White, Cranmer, Scott, Butcher, Jarrett, and Louch also assisted. Mr. Matthews presided at the pianoforte.

HARTON.—On Tuesday, July 13, the Harton Choral and Harmonic Society gave their first concert of a series for the present season in the Church-gate Head School. Miss Chambers, and Messrs. Barraclough, Frye, S. P. Matthews, Adams, Hall, Pycett, and Martin, were the performers upon the occasion.

LIVERPOOL.—St. Matthias's Association.—A Concert was given on the 16th of February to a large audience, the vocalists being Miss Lucy Gaskill, Mr. Haswell, Mr. Graham, Mr. Henry Dodd, and Mr. Thomasson. Mr. Skeat, jun. conducted.

LINCOLN.—The Lincoln Choral Society gave their first performance this season in the Corn Exchange, on the 13th ult., to a very numerous audience. The programme consisted of selections from Haydn's *Creation*, and Handel's *Acis and Galatea*; the soprano parts being sustained by Mrs. Sunderland, the tenor by Mr. Barraclough, and the bass by Mr. Brooke.

SHIPLEY.—A miscellaneous concert was given in the Mechanics' Institute on the 16th ult., the following artistes sustaining the principal parts:—Miss Newell, Mrs. Gill, Mr. Massa, and Mr. Jennings. Mr. Firth presided at the pianoforte. The attendance was good.

St. JOHN'S, HOLBECK.—A concert took place on the 3rd of February for the benefit of three Choir Boys. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Gill, Miss Redihalg, Messrs. Hargraves, Gott, Duthoit, Elsworth, and Mason. Mr. Lancaster accompanied on the pianoforte.

CORWEN, N. WALES.—On Friday, the 6th ult., a concert of sacred music was given by the members of the Corwen Choir, in the Calvinistic Chapel in this town, in aid of the fund for educating poor children in the British School. The programme consisted of selected pieces from the works of Handel, Beethoven, and Pergolesi. The principal solos and duets were sung by Mr. Roberts, Miss Roberts, and Mr. Jones. Mr. Davies conducted.

LIVERPOOL.—The 13th Anniversary Dinner of the Sappho Glee Club took place on the 13th February. The music was selected from Bishop, Webbe, Callcott, Holden, &c.; and, under the direction of Mr. Skeaf, jun., was most efficiently performed.

RYE.—The Choir of the Wesleyan Chapel had their annual concert and tea meeting in the school-room on the 5th ult. The solos were sung by Mrs. Ringland, Mrs. Mathews, and Mr. Tavener. Mrs. Mitchel accompanied on the Harmonium, and Miss Tavener presided at the Pianoforte; the choir was conducted by Mr. Kidd.

LANCASTER.—The *Messiah* was performed in the Music Hall of this town on the 17th of Feb. The principal performers were—vocalists, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Sanderson, Mr. Perring, and Mr. Lambert. Instrumentalists—leader, Mr. Harrison; Trumpet, Mr. Ellwood; Organist, Mr. Kempe; and Conductor, Mr. F. Dean. The Music Hall was well filled, and the proceeds were given for the benefit of St. Thomas' National Schools. The Chorus was ably drilled by Mr. Dean.

St. MARTIN'S HALL.—*Judas Maccabæus* was performed on the 18th ult., under the direction of Mr. J. Hullah. The principal vocalists were—Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Banks, Miss Moss, Miss Palmer, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. T. Williams, who kindly undertook, without previous notice, to sing the tenor part in the place of Mr. Sims Reeves who was prevented by indisposition from attending. The orchestra and chorus were complete in every department.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—A concert was given here on the 10th of Feb. The programme consisted of Mozart's 12th Mass, and a selection of Oratorio and Anthem music. Mr. Essex had trained the singers with much care, and the performance gave entire satisfaction.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—On Friday, the 30th of January, the *Elijah* was performed in a manner that could not be surpassed. The principal vocalists were Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey and Miss Palmer; Mr. Lockey and Mr. Weiss. The superb voice of Madame Clara Novello was never heard to greater advantage; the other singers merited every praise. On the 6th of February, Mendelssohn's Music to *Athalie*, and the *Stabat Mater*, were repeated. The illustrative verses were recited, as before, by Mr. Phelps, and the principal parts were sung by Madame

Clara Novello, Miss Sherrington, Miss Dolby, Mr. S. Reeves, and Signor Belletti. On the 13th, Mr. Costa's oratorio, *Eli*, was given for the first time, Madame Rudersdorff singing the principal soprano music, Miss Dolby the contralto, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Montem Smith, the first and second tenor, and Signor Belletti and Mr. Thomas were the basses. The solo singers performed their parts admirably, and the band were well up to the music, but the choruses were not executed as satisfactorily as could have been wished; on a second occasion they will no doubt be more perfect.

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